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# THE 'QUES TIONABLES'

## A Secret List Of State Dept. Security Risks

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There is a list of 847 grave security risks in the State Department.

It includes the names of pro-Reds, pinks, homosexuals, alcoholics, sex degenerates and a score of well-behaved and well-disciplined individuals suspected of being professional Communist agents.

The last are the hard-core Reds.

Many of the others are believed to be the agents' stooges or dupes.

This veritable social register of subversives and ineligible is a legacy from the grave of the late Scott McLeod.

For four years before he was appointed Ambassador to Ireland in 1957, Mr. McLeod was the controversial boss of the State Department's Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs.

Mr. McLeod was a former FBI agent. He and a crack team of investigators and evaluators winnowed out the 847 cases from all the unfounded or crackpot-type of derogatory information in the department's files. The residue was a roster of questionables.

### SLIGHT ATTRITION

The list is very much alive. Death and attrition have exacted only a small toll on it.

The original, on white bond paper, and two copies on faded onionskin, are in safekeeping in the Washington, D.C. area.

A safe deposit vault preserves the original. The two copies are each in a different place.

They are a testament to the foresight and sense of foreboding which led Mr. McLeod to turn them over to trusted friends in the Spring of 1957.

### MEMORABLE SCENE

The occasion was memorable, informal, grim. The scene was in a private office in downtown Washington.

The 43-year-old, crewcut, bespectacled Iowa-born official slowly and meaningfully waved the hefty handful of documents in front of him. Then Mr. McLeod, a square-shouldered former Grinnell College football player said:

"Some day these pages may be of great importance."

"Some day they may prove that not everyone in this national capital was asleep. Keep them in separate places. Then at least one copy can outlive any one or two of us."

"You or I can decide when they ought to be taken out and shown to the right people."

That time has come, in the opinion of the heirs of the legacy.

News that McLeod's "List of Questionables" had been preserved intact was privately circulated yesterday on Capitol Hill to members of a few Congressional committees. To report that it caused a stir would



SCOTT McLEOD

*List of Risks Lives On*

AP Photo

be a serious under-statement.

The onrush of events made the timing of the McLeod heirs almost inevitable.

Only this week State removed the last six members of Mr. McLeod's investigation-and-evaluation team from security to another bureau. With Otto Otepka already booted out of security work, it represented a complete erasure of all traces of the scent of the tough McLeod.

Mr. McLeod died of a heart attack, at the age of 47, on Nov. 7, 1961, in Concord, N. H.

Two other time-squeezes are pressing on the heirs of the McLeod legacy. One is coming from the direction of the two most famous recent defectors from the Soviet Secret Police, Yuri I. Nossenko and Lt. Col. Michal Goleniewski.

CPYRGHT

Continued

**UNDER TIGHT WRAPS**

Both are tightly under the wing of the Central Intelligence Agency, a part of the executive branch.

Both have been reliably reported to the McLeod heirs as having come up with the names of traitorous Americans, some of whom were put on the McLeod list seven, eight or nine years ago.

Convergence of all lists on the same culprits could bring a devastating blow and an antiseptic cleanup to Secretary of State Rusk's department.

**POLITICAL SQUEEZE**

The other time-squeeze is on the political front. The national conventions and the Presidential campaign are just around the corner. Already two bills have been introduced in Congress calling for a top-to-bottom probe of State. Several Congressional committees are in-or planning to get in the act.

Mr. McLeod's heirs say it's to avoid having the issue become a political football that they hope to bring Democrats and Republicans together in the national interest to act now in a clean-up of State.

They point out it is only if they fail now that all the leverage would go to the Republicans in the upcoming, highly political, Summer and Fall.

Then—and only then—would the issue become a political football.

One of the onionskin copies of McLeod's "List of questionables," this reporter is able to testify, has been kept updated over the years.

Where death or retirement or expulsion or other causes have rendered a name void of any further interest, it has either been scratched or new notes added.

The owner of this particular copy has conferred with me. He is not in the State Dept. Since the latter's "Biographical Register" is several months from its last printing, it is not clear to him, he said, about the present status of all the 847 names.

Here are some of the more interesting cases from those onionskin sheets:

**Case of the Security Officer**

The Security officer in our embassy at Moscow fell under the spell of a pretty woman KGB agent. She lured him to an apartment equipped with a hidden camera and recording device. He was photographed in the nude and his voice put on a sound-track.

Russians approached him with their evidence and tried to make a spy out of him. In this they failed. But what floored him and his superiors was the long dossier on his personal history which the Russians recited to him. It included one long-before and almost innocent incident when he got into a minor altercation in a Washington night club, an incident which never even became a police blotter entry.

Apparently the Russians had him tabbed for years as a great blackmail prospect. He was transferred from Moscow. His present status is unclear.

**Case of the Bisexual Swain**

A senior foreign service officer in Mexico City conducted such a torrid affair with the wife of a French Diplomat that it became the subject of official protest through channels. The officer was censured.

Not many months later, in a different city, he was found involved in an equally torrid affair with a South American statesman a man who only recently completed his tour as president of his country.

The American was asked to resign but he demurred. He claimed that few U.S. diplomats had as many strong bonds in the international set as he. It is unknown, at this date, whether the American has resigned or whether he appealed successfully to higher authorities to save him.

**Case of the Budapest Carouser**

A high foreign service officer in Budapest, Hungary, had an insatiable taste for liquor and girls at the fashionable Duna Bar. KGB deployed some of

its own woman agents to his table. Often one would be seen taking him gingerly in tow and bleary-eyed.

One night, completely in the nude he staggered out on a street near the Duna. A photographer was there. It became a police incident requiring diplomatic intercession. Present status unclear.

**Old Warsaw Hand**

A foreign service officer was more than slightly involved in the case of "E. S.," a diplomat found to have been spying for the Russians for 18 years.

"E. S." was made to resign from his post in Warsaw. But the second man, involved in the same case, was simply transferred to a post in Canada. He is there now, ruling on visas of Canadians and Europeans wishing to come to the U. S.

**Buenos Aires Questionable**

A high official in our embassy in Buenos Aires—and there right now—has a record of Communist affiliation going back 20 years.

**Hong Kong Envoy**

A Congressman, a writer and a Catholic priest are all on record as reporting—in response to inquiries—that a senior foreign service officer recently stationed in Hong Kong is a practicing homosexual and an embarrassing nuisance to the country he represents.

So goes the list, ad infinitum.

It also records the findings of Mr. McLeod that the department long had been a favored sanctuary for male sex deviates of all sorts, dating back to the days when many principal officers of the department were notorious homosexuals, and thus especially sensitive to Red blackmail. Mr. McLeod's regime obtained the resignation of nearly 900 homosexuals.

**SMALL PERCENTAGE**

But the possessors of the list also believe that the de-

partment has an overwhelming majority of talented and dedicated Americans and that they, as well as their countrymen, would benefit if the long-forestalled cleansing of State could be rushed to completion.

After all, they point out, 847—minus the attrition figure—represents only about 6 per cent of the 7,000 employees in Washington, and 7,000 foreign service workers abroad, or grand total of 14,000, who are subject to the department's security screen.

They feel it is high time for all concerned that the Questionables be given their day in court and then—if they think it—a fast escort to the exit door.

That means the Questionables List would make an excellent subpoena list for Congress. Start, say, with the names which happen to be those also picked out for signal honors by Nosenko and Goleniewski!

Or won't the executive branch ever let anyone else know who the defectors named?

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